

friends will be honoring his 26th Pastoral Anniversary on Sunday, October 10, 2010. Let us join them in acknowledging and honoring the values his life of service shows.

#### HONORING DAVID SABSAY

#### HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of David Sabsay, father of the Sonoma County Library, who passed away on March 20, 2010, at his home in Sebastopol, California. His passion and leadership strengthened our public libraries not only in Sonoma County, but across California, transforming education and fostering civic engagement for youth and adults.

Born in Waltham, Massachusetts in 1931, David Sabsay came to Santa Rosa in 1956 after receiving his graduate degree in library science at the University of California at Berkeley. At 25, Mr. Sabsay was the youngest head librarian in the state, and he was already envisioning the vibrant, integrated public library system he knew Californians needed.

Mr. Sabsay wasted no time in pursuing this vision, and his skill as a library advocate quickly earned him a place of respect in the community and a record of hard-earned victories. On multiple occasions he served as chair of the Government Relations Committee of the California Library Association, and by 1971 he had become the organization's president. He founded and became the first coordinator of the North Bay Cooperative Library System, a six-county resource-sharing network and the first cooperative library system in the western United States.

In a career dedicated to improving library services in Sonoma County, Mr. Sabsay also brought his expertise to debates on library support in Sacramento. In 1978, in order to secure a sufficient stream of funding for California libraries, he helped author legislation establishing state financing for local libraries and encouraging county contributions. This legislation continues to serve all Californians as a safeguard against the loss of an essential public asset and as a reminder of our stake in its future.

Mr. Sabsay was perhaps best known for his instrumental backing of a unified library system in Sonoma County. In 1975, his work led to the signing of the joint-powers agreement—the first such agreement for a library system in California—that established the institution we rely on today. During his tenure as director of Sonoma County Library, Mr. Sabsay even oversaw the construction of the central library and nine regional branches as his county network expanded to serve one of the strongest per capita memberships in the state. Mr. Sabsay retired in 1992 but remained an active consultant on library development, funding, and operations.

David Sabsay was predeceased by his wife Helen. He is survived by his brother.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in celebrating the life of a man who dedicated himself to serving the people of Sonoma County and California. We have all benefitted from his work on behalf of knowledge and public education, and from his example as a

tireless advocate for one of the civic institutions most important in our democracy.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, on November 17, 2010, I missed rollcall vote 572. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" or "aye."

#### IN HONOR OF ROBERT "BOB" FELLER

#### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Robert "Bob" Feller on his 92nd birthday on November 3 and for his longtime service in our community and our Nation.

Bob was one of the greatest pitchers in Cleveland Indians history. He made his major league debut in 1936 at the age of 17, where his legendary fastball quickly earned him a reputation around the league. He was given nicknames such as "Rapid Robert" and "Bullet Bob." His career was prodigious; it spanned over sixteen seasons, during which he racked up 2581 strikeouts, 3828 innings pitched and 266 wins. These and other monumental totals make up many team and league records that remain intact today. It is no wonder that Bob was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1962, his first year of eligibility.

Bob's military service is evidence of his character and love of his country. He served our Nation in the Navy during World War II, becoming the first major league baseball player to enlist as a result of the attack on Pearl Harbor in December of 1941. Though he was in the prime of his career and could have deferred his draft notice, he chose to miss four seasons, serving aboard the U.S.S. *Alabama* as it patrolled both the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans. He retired from the Navy at the end of the war as a Chief Petty Officer and returned to his exceptional career with the Indians.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Bob Feller for his excellence in major league baseball and his service to our country. The strength of character he displayed both on and off the field makes him a truly exceptional man and a role model for generations of baseball fans and patriots.

#### A TRIBUTE TO HONOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER AND CREW OF THE USS "GRAVELY"

#### HON. MIKE McINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Mr. McINTYRE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Commander Douglas

Kunzman, as well as the officers and crew of the USS *Gravelly*, which will be commissioned by the United States Navy in Wilmington, North Carolina, on November 20, 2010. This strong, state-of-the-art destroyer joins an impressive group of ships on deployment protecting our nation and defending our freedoms and national security interests.

As a senior member of the U.S. House Committee on Armed Services and a longtime supporter of our great nation's military and those who have served our country, it is my honor to recognize the USS *Gravelly* as the 57th unit of the ARLEIGH BURKE Class of guided missile destroyers.

Named for Vice Admiral Samuel Lee Gravelly, Jr., the first African-American commanding officer of a naval ship, this guided missile destroyer was constructed at Northrup Grumman Corporation's Ingalls Shipyard in Pascagoula, MS. Her keel was laid on November 26, 2007, launched on March 30, 2009, and christened on May 16, 2009. Impressively, the USS *Gravelly* has an overall length of 510 ft, beam of 66 ft, full load displacement of 9,200 tons and a mean full load draft of 33 ft.

The people of Southeastern North Carolina are honored to welcome and host Commander Kunzman and his crew for the commissioning festivities for this new vessel and hope they will consider the coastline of this state as a special home for them. I am especially appreciative of the Secretary of the Navy, the Honorable Ray Mabus, for granting the request for this commissioning to occur in North Carolina and for his recent visit to Wilmington in anticipation of this important event, as well as for the celebration of Navy Day.

The State of North Carolina and this nation are deeply proud of the personal talent and ability represented by the officers and crew of this new destroyer. It is their spirit, service, and sacrifice for which we all are extremely grateful.

Madam Speaker, may we also never forget the bravery and dedication of those who have served before, those who currently serve, and those who will serve our country—and may we continue to receive inspiration from their courageous words and deeds. May God's blessings be with the USS *Gravelly*, her officers, and her crew as she begins her time in service to this wonderful nation—the United States of America.

#### HONORING CHARLES E. KRUSE

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Charles E. Kruse. Charlie has served as President of the Missouri Farm Bureau since 1992 and will be retiring from office on December 7, 2010.

Since first being elected to President in 1992, Charlie has served for nine terms and has overseen the tremendous growth of the Missouri Farm Bureau. Under Charlie's leadership, membership has reached 100,000, a successful web portal has been developed, and historic new highs have been reached in both the Life insurance and Town and Country insurance sections. All the while, Charlie has maintained an outspoken passion for Missouri